

Application No. 10/629,164
Rule 312 Amendment dated March 21, 2006

Atty. Docket No. MP0301
PATENT APPLICATION

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 14-17, 28-30, 60-63, and 100-187 are pending in the application. Claims 100-187, added herein, are claims 1-13, 18-27, 31-59, and 64-99 as originally filed. Specifically, claims 100-112 are originally filed claims 1-13; claims 113-122 are originally-filed claims 18-27; claims 123-151 are originally-filed claims 31-59; and claims 152-187 are originally-filed claims 61-99.

Earlier during prosecution of this application, in response to an election of species requirement, Applicant had elected the species on which generic claims 14, 28, and 60 read. In its response, Applicant identified these claims as generic. The Examiner never disputed this identification during prosecution, as the undersigned pointed out during a conversation with the Examiner on January 18, 2006. The Examiner's and the undersigned's recollection of that conversation differ; the Examiner recalled the undersigned agreeing to cancel the claims in question, while the undersigned recalled conditionally agreeing to cancel the claims if the Examiner disputed Applicant's identification of generic claims. After receiving the Notice of Allowance, the undersigned contacted the Examiner, who kindly agreed to review the case again from this perspective. As a result of a further conversation between the Examiner and the undersigned on March 21, 2006, Applicant submits this amendment, re-adding the cancelled claims.

This amendment does not affect patentability and does not require any additional search, as generic claims 14, 28, and 60, which the Examiner has allowed, have been examined, and the claims being added herein, having been non-elected as a result of an earlier election of species requirement, now are properly added upon allowance of generic claims 14, 28, and 60.

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This amendment does not result in any necessary additional fees, as the number of pending claims after this amendment is 99, the same (including independent and dependent claims) as were originally filed and paid for.

Request for Allowance

It is believed that this Amendment places the application in condition for allowance, and early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,
 KENYON & KENYON LLP

Dated: March 21, 2006

By:

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 21, 2006.

Thea K. Wagner
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